



**CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
REQUEST FOR ACTION**

Item No. PW 10-11

SUBMITTED TO: Chairman Siersema and Members of the Commission

SUBMITTED BY: Travis K. Hopkins, PE, Director of Public Works

DATE: March 17, 2010

SUBJECT: Safe Routes to School project in the Vicinity of Spring View Middle School (CC-1367)

Statement of Issue: Plans and specifications are in final preparation for the installation of traffic and pedestrian-related safety improvements in the vicinity of Spring View Middle School. Upon approval from the Director of Public Works they will be ready for bid. Staff is seeking support for the project and the initiation of the competitive bid process.

Funding Source: Funds in the amount of \$341,000 are appropriated for construction in Safe Routes to School, Traffic Improvements, Account No. 87890005.82700. Funding is \$306,900 in grant funds from the state Safe Routes to School program with matching local Measure M funds of \$34,100. The engineer's cost estimate for this project is \$315,000.

Impact on Future Maintenance Costs: Maintenance costs will be increased incrementally with the addition of a new traffic signal.

Recommended Action: Motion to support the initiation of the competitive bid process and to recommend to the City Council the proposed Safe Routes to School project in the vicinity of Spring View School.

Alternative Action(s): Recommend changes to the project.

Analysis: In April 2009, the City staff, working in conjunction with the Ocean View School District, applied for a grant for traffic safety improvements in the vicinity of Spring View Middle School under the Safe Routes to School program. The grant was approved and the State allocated funds in September 2009.

The goals of the Safe Routes to School program include facilitating the planning, development and implementation of projects that improve safety in the vicinity

of schools. This will enable and encourage children to walk and bicycle to school and make walking and bicycling a safer and more appealing lifestyle choice.

The project includes the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Heil Avenue and Trudy Lane, which is a major crossing point for students from Spring View Middle School. The traffic signal installation includes the modification of the island nose at the Heil Avenue frontage road to provide a pedestrian refuge area, along with minor drainage improvements. Also included are curb ramp installations along Trudy Lane, signing and striping improvements, and the removal of the flashing beacons along Heil Avenue that are no longer appropriate due to the installation of the traffic signal.

Currently, there are two uncontrolled crosswalks across Heil Avenue in the vicinity of Spring View Middle School. One is at Trudy Lane where the new traffic signal is proposed, and the other is located at Bradbury Lane, approximately 700 feet to the west of Trudy Lane and adjacent to the campus of St. Bonaventure School. Observations of pedestrian activity both during the morning and afternoon periods show that the overwhelming majority of students utilizing these crosswalks are from Spring View Middle School. With the installation of the traffic signal a protected crossing will be provided and the unprotected striped crosswalk at Bradbury Lane can be considered for removal. Public Works staff will be contacting the administration at St. Bonaventure School to discuss the removal with them. It is anticipated that the removal of the Bradbury Lane crosswalk will be coming before the Public Works Commission at a future meeting.

The estimated cost for this project is \$315,000. State funds will be appropriated in the amount of \$306,900. The balance of funding is included in the 2009/10 Capital Improvement Program. Construction will be scheduled for summer 2010.

Attachments: Project Location Map